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HEALTH CONCERNS PROMPT EPA TO RESTRICT PUBLIC ACCESS AT TWO
PROPERTIES IN MEYERSVILLE, NEW JERSEY

NEW YORK, N.Y. -- Due to concerns over the potential for human exposure to asbestos, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) yesterday posted warning signs to temporarily restrict public access to a horse farm/riding stable on White Bridge Road and a tree surgeon business on New Vernon Road, both in Meyersville, New Jersey. EPA has advised the residents at the two sites that they should relocate temporarily, and that the Agency is willing to assist in the relocation costs. Asbestos-contaminated materials were used at both locations as fill.

EPA also sampled other houses in the area which could be potentially affected by the two sites. The results indicate that the levels of asbestos found are at the low end of the risk range. Therefore, EPA is not suggesting relocation at this time. EPA is planning to conduct additional monitoring at these properties to confirm its preliminary findings, as well as further sampling to define the extent of asbestos contamination.

EPA Regional Administrator Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff said,

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physician since asbestos exposure has a substantial latency period.

- * Additional sampling in adjacent homes should be undertaken. If dust samples are collected, they should be from relatively inaccessible areas, such as the top of bookshelves and under refrigerators.
- * The data collected during the additional recommended sampling should be evaluated to determine if further action is necessary. ATSDR would be available to perform this evaluation.
- * Access to the sites should be restricted.
- * Activities which tend to generate dust, including horseback riding, should be terminated in areas known to be contaminated with asbestos.
- * Warning signs specifying the exposure risk should be posted in the vicinity of the horse track at the White Bridge Road Site. The signs should remain in place until mitigative efforts alleviate the health threat.

Site Background

The properties on White Bridge Road and New Vernon Road are considered satellite sites of the Asbestos Dump Superfund Site. The Asbestos Dump-Millington Site, presently owned by TIFA, Ltd., is an 11-acre commercial property, at 50 Division Avenue in Millington, New Jersey.

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